



MONTEREY NEWS

July 2004
VOLUME XXXIV · Number 7



The Town

New Fiscal Year, New Town Offices

June 30 ended the past fiscal accounting year for Monterey, and July 1 ushered in the next one, but "Happy New Year" is not celebrated at the Town Hall, especially by Barbara Gauthier, our accountant, as she closes the books

on every cent of expenditures of the budget approved at Town Meeting, exactly fourteen months ago.

The Board of Assessors was held accountable by the Commonwealth for the accuracy of the 5,700 acres on the town records reported for assessment evaluation. After comprehensive review by state officials here, there was no more than a thirty-acre discrepancy between their survey and ours, less than one hun-

dredth of one percent, which was deemed to be very satisfactory.

The new Town Hall is buzzing daily with meetings, space accommodations, and computer security adjustments. One important feature is the computer work station available to the public, giving Monterey citizens easy and accurate access to public information when visiting the Town Offices.



© Judy Bach

Judy Bach's photo of a heron on Lake Garfield appears (in living color) on this year's LakeFest poster. See story p. 5.



Michael Storch

Monterey's veterans assembled at Veterans Memorial Park on Memorial Day. From left: Steve Kahn, George Emmons, Leroy Thorpe, Arnie Hayes, Dick Tryon, Steve Pullen, Arthur Wing, Larry Cline(kneeling), unidentified, Michael Feltser, Alvin Richmond.

Appointments

Ray Tryon has been reappointed as Monterey Emergency Management Coordinator for three years. Director of Operations Maynard Forbes and Police Chief Gareth Backhaus have been appointed to co-chair Local Emergency

Planning, also for three years. Linda Thorpe has been appointed for one year to the Town Report Committee, joining Barbara Swann, Michele Miller, and Bonnie Tedder Jurgenson, and Del Rogers has been named as the Town Network Administrator.

Building Permits

New Building Permit Commissioner Don Torrico has printed out a detailed handout sheet, available upon request at Town Hall, that simply and clearly spells out Section 113.1 of the requirements of the Building Code. So if you are a prospective builder in Monterey, come in and pick one up. Written application and

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From left: Dan Eshen, Dean Amidon, Kenneth Heath, Alan Dean (rear, partially blocked), Arthur Monk, unidentified, Ian Higgins (kneeling), A. Vetter, Paul Rodriguez (kneeling), Tom Hough, Julio Rodriguez (kneeling), Frank D'Amato, unidentified, Carl Champigny (kneeling).

approval must be obtained in advance before constructing, reconstructing, altering, repairing, or demolishing a structure. This includes altering equipment regulated by this code, and in fact any maintenance not considered an ordinary repair. Ordinary repairs are any maintenance which does not effect any of the below:

Structure: Floor, roof, wind, or snow loads. A structural deficiency is never grandfathered and when cited must be addressed.

Egress: Any element or means of egress—stairs, decks, porches, and doorways, including hardware. Deficiencies are not grandfathered.

Fire Protection Systems: Smoke barriers,

fire walls, fire separation assemblies, fire dampers, shutters, sprinklers, detectors, standpipes, smoke removal systems.

Fire Ratings: Interior finish, wall coverings, flooring, drywall, and plaster (but not paint or wallpaper). (over >)

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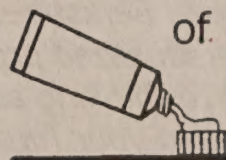
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An All Boards Meeting with the Building Commissioner has been scheduled for Wednesday, July 7, at 7 p.m. in Town Hall.

The Scenic Mountain Act

The Scenic Mountain Act was approved by State Environmental Authorities and goes into effect beginning on July 1.

Senior Citizen Tax Alternative

The subject of allowing senior citizens, perhaps those 60 years or older, to have the option to work off their tax bills by providing a service to the town came up again at a Select Board meeting. The idea is that this would be one way to enhance the quality of life for senior citizens and at the same time bring in valuable contributions from experienced and qualified people that would benefit the entire community. The concept is already working well in other towns in the Berkshires and elsewhere.

Transfer Station Stickers

Transfer Station stickers are available at Town Hall for the coming fiscal year, July 1, 2004, through June 30, 2005. The fee is \$35, and a second sticker for

the same household is free, providing the license plate number and state of your second vehicle is submitted and agrees with the registration of your second car. Fees for businesses and commercial haulers' clients have valid stickers is mandatory. Fees for wood waste, construction materials, shingles, sheetrock, and metals vary from \$20 to \$30, depending on size of the conveyor. Mattresses, furniture, refrigerators, appliances, tires, computers, and related printers, scanners, televisions and florescent lamps are extra; charges are listed in the Transfer Station application forms. And please recycle!

Weekend and Holiday Parking Congestion

Due to parking congestion and limited parking in the center of town, town residents are urged to walk into town whenever possible. Thank you for your consideration!

Assessors Clerk Sought

The Monterey Board of Assessors is looking for someone to fill the position of their secretary/clerk. The hours can be flexible to accommodate the applicant's schedule. Interested parties should contact Stan Ross, 528-4990.

— George Emmons



Jimmy Jangle Workshop July 17 in Church Basement

Come to the Monterey Meetinghouse Fellowship Hall on Saturday, July 17, at 10 a.m. to find out how to make and play "jimmy jangles," simple rhythm instruments made from Y-shaped tree branches. Bring your favorite jangly items (anything that can hang from a wire and make a sound) and any interesting Y-shaped branch and we will have fun creating a rhythmic experience. Branches and jangly things will be provided if needed. All ages are welcome; there will be a \$5 materials fee.

The jimmy jangle workshop will be led by singer-songwriter JoAnne Spies, creator of "RiverMASS," a performance/community event taking place August 7 at 1:00 p.m. at St. Stephen's Church in Pittsfield as part of Housatonic River Summer. For more information call the Monterey Church, 528-5850.



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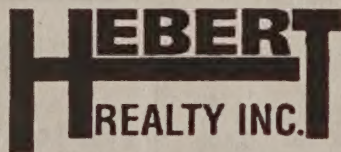
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Judy Bach to Heron: "Don't move, I'll be right back!"

This year's LGA LakeFest poster comes to us courtesy of Judy Bach and a most cooperative heron. When Judy sighted our statuesque friend, her first thought was "My camera!" Her camera, purchased the previous day, was still in its box; a nifty new digital with an instruction booklet the size of Rhode Island. (Well, not exactly, but, it might as well have been, considering the task at hand.)

As fate would have it, Judy and her buddy, Nanette Hucknall, had both bought the same camera. "On sale," Judy is quick to add. So Mrs. Bach says to Mr. Heron, "Do NOT move, I'll be right back!" And off she dashes to Nanette's house. "Please, I need your camera! Which button do I push?" About nine minutes later, Judy is back at her house, and, as requested, the heron has not moved—not even a feather.

Judy captured this exquisite photograph, said "Thank you, heron," and watched him immediately fly off. The Lake Garfield Association would like to say, "Thank you, Judy," for this year's LakeFest poster. (Can you imagine if she'd read the instructions!)

Posters will be available starting July 17th at the LGA meeting at the Firehouse, 9:30 a.m. or, in front of the General Store for the friendly price of \$10. Or, send \$12,

Explore Other Worlds at the Monterey Library

July 1 through July 31

Summer reading program for pre-school- and school-aged children. Register, keep track of reading time, and earn fun prizes while enjoying the pleasures of books. Sign-up forms, activities, and information are available at the Library.

Saturday, July 3, 10 a.m.

Join storyteller **Laurie Shaw** for a magical hour of reading, crafting magic wands, and a snack. Suggested for children ages 4 and up.

Saturday, July 10, 10 a.m.

Be here the "Day the Library Goes Wild" as singer/songwriter **Jay Mankita** takes us on a lively interactive musical journey around the world. The powers of reading, nature, and imagination come alive for children and their families. Please join us for this free event, cosponsored by the Monterey Library and the Monterey Cultural Council.

which includes mailing costs, to LGA, P.O. Box 355, Monterey, MA 01245. Be sure to include your return address, phone number, and e-mail address.

— Hy Rosen

Saturday, July 17, 10 a.m.

Have you read *The Beejum Book*? Come meet Monterey's own Alice O. Howell, who will read from her magical and imaginative novel, "a mystical adventure for children of all ages" that has been compared to *Alice in Wonderland* and *The Little Princess*. A discussion with the author will follow. Adults will find this event most enjoyable, as will children ages 7 and up.

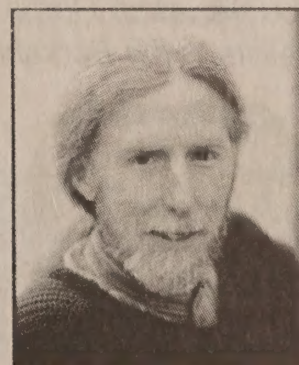
Saturday, July 24, 10 a.m.

Storyteller **Laurie Shaw** will help us explore OUTER SPACE during an hour of reading, making an "alien craft," and enjoying a snack Suggested for children ages 4 and up.

Saturday, July 31, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Our famous Annual Used Book Sale on the Library lawn. Pick through treasures that have been accumulating in the Library basement. BARGAINS GALORE! Donations will be accepted the week before the sale, but please no text books, Reader's Digest condensed books, water damaged or mildewed books.

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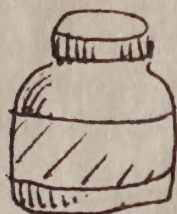
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Calling Local Artists

The Storefront Artist Project, Berkshire Enterprise Center, and Berkshire Housing are putting together a grant proposal to fund free or low cost marketing and business training for artists in the Berkshires, and are surveying the interest in such classes or workshops among artists. We are trying to get as broad a geographic spectrum of responses as possible, and right now we are focusing on Monterey and nearby towns.

If you are interested in such training, please drop me a line and let me know, along with your town of residence. If you know others in the area who might be interested, please inform them as well. They can respond to me at mail@storefrontartist.org or by phone at 413-445-2780. Please respond by July 15 at the latest.

— Megan Whilden



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NOTICE

from
Monterey Parks Commission

Due to the trash problems in parks, all trash cans are being removed from the parks in town. The new policy will be CARRY IN/CARRY OUT. The trash cans were there for the public's convenience but were being misused, not only by people using the parks but by passersbys to get rid of their trash, including home garbage. This problem has been going on for too many years. PLEASE REMEMBER, the town parks are your PARKS not your LANDFILL.

CARRY IN/CARRY OUT

Park Commission Chairman LeRoy E. Thorpe

Bidwell House Upcoming Events

Wednesday, July 7, 6–7:30 p.m.

Free Concert on the Lawn: The Flying Garbanzos.

Saturday, July 24, 1–4 p.m.

Early American Games Day: A day of family fun including storytelling, puppetry, and games.

Saturday, July 31, 1–2:30 p.m.

What Was Cooking at the Bidwell House: Foodways in Colonial New England: A lecture, tour, tasting, and demon-

stration of what homemaking was like in colonial New England. With Don Welsch, Ann Hanchett, and Anne Dinan. Limited to 15 participants. Must preregister.

Wednesday, August 4, 6–7:30 p.m.

Free Concert on the Lawn: TBA, call for information.

Saturday, August 7, 12–2 p.m.

Nature Journaling with Sarah Grant: Participants will learn to observe and sketch the natural world, using the forests and fields surrounding the Bidwell House

For information or to register, please call 413-528-6888.

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LGA meets: Weeds, Public Boating Launch, Jet Skis, Loosestrife . . .

On June 19th the Lake Garfield Association held the summer's first open meeting at the Firehouse. Lots of friends of Lake Garfield, the jewel of Monterey, made it a point to show up at that meeting. With good reason. There was news about a lot of hot topics.

Plans for a public boating launch are well underway. Not adjacent to the public beach, where our little kiddies frolic, but rather at Kinney's Grove. What a good idea!

Pat Edelstein, LGA's queen of ecology, reported on purple loosestrife, that vigorously invasive weed, and what's being done about it. (See article on p. X.)

Lake weeds are also Pat's domain. Her May water temperature tests found the water way warmer than last May. Weeds love warmer water. (Swimmers, get your machetes ready.)

What's happening with jet skis, you ask? Last spring the Town voted 9 to 1 to

prohibit personal watercraft operation on Lake Garfield; however, the state Environmental Police denied the Town's wishes, saying a ban was too severe. (Yes, they have that power.) Instead, they suggested the Town impose some restrictions. Current thoughts include prohibiting personal watercraft from operating on the small portion of the lake, west of the channel, (except for launching at headway speed), restricting speed limits to 35 mph, and limiting hours of operation to between 10 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Reverend Arthur Monk, Beach Committee Chairman, reported that there would be only one raft this summer. The second raft will not be used as it has sprung an irreparable leak, so seriously affecting its ballast that a single Twinkie, placed atop the raft, would send it plummeting to the lake's bottom.

Of note, there has been a changing of the guard on the LGA's steering committee. Kathie Frome is retiring as president, after several years of steering us to the top. Her enormous efforts have reaped rewards for all of Monterey, launching projects to preserve and protect lake Garfield, as well

as realizing her vision of LakeFest celebrations for all of Monterey to enjoy and remember. Kudos to Kathie. Steering Committee member, Janet Cathcart, Monterey resident, woman of endless energy, and a great lover of Garfield, steps up as LGA's new president. We're in quite capable hands, for sure.

Len Simon, treasurer of many years, is retiring as well. Len did such a sterling job as treasurer that at one point there was talk of an LGA IPO. We'll miss you, Len. And we'll miss Marion Simon, who is stepping down as Membership Chairman. During Marion's reign, LGA's membership tripled. Thank you, Marion.

Hy Rosen stays on as Vice President. (I love this job!)

Harriet Harvey, lawyer, interior decorator, poetess, and all-around delightful person, moves from Secretary to Treasurer. (Which leaves the Secretary's spot open. Anyone out there have a pen and a desire to serve the community?)

While we're on the subject of community, if you're not a member of the Lake Garfield Association, why not join the ranks. Pitch in. Have a say in what's going on with our great Lake Garfield. You can join at our web site, www.LakeGarfield.org, or call 528-8217. Drop in on the next general meeting, July 17th at the Firehouse, 9:30 a.m.

And everybody, think sunshine for August 28th, LakeFest 2004!

— Hy Rosen

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Cultural Council Sponsoring Shindig!

Shindig!, a community music and dance night in Monterey, will be held on Saturday, September 4, beginning at 6 p.m. at the Firehouse Pavilion. This event is brought to you by the Monterey Cultural Council. Admission is free. We're counting on your participation!

The Schedule

6 p.m.: Community potluck supper with musical accompaniment. What a pleasure!

7-8:30: Community contra and square dance with a community band (any musicians who want to volunteer to be part of this) and veteran caller Joe Baker. What a blast!

8:30-8:45 p.m.: Concert by Monterey children between the ages of 8 and 14. What a kick!

9:00-11:00 p.m.: Community boogie dance—music by Three For All. What a boogie!

The Details

Potluck: We'll announce what sort of contribution you should bring, based on your last name. The Cultural Council

will provide beverages, paperware, and cups. Music TBA.

Contradance: Musicians are needed to join this band; no contradance experience necessary! There will be at least one rehearsal in August; we will provide you with music ahead of time. Please call Joe Baker at 528-9385 to sign up. Sax? Tuba? Clarinet? Bass? Viola? All others? Yes!

Children's Concert: One (or two) songs with instrumental backup—join us to get this on stage, kids. Any and all singers and players; call Debbie Mielke at 644-8926 for details about music and rehearsals.

The Boogie: Three For All, a local R&B band featuring Monterey's own Lanny Lanoue (drums, vocals), joined by Sammy Brown (guitar, keyboard, vocals) and Trevor Young (bass).

More details will be given in the August *News*. See you there, September 4!

— Monterey Cultural Council

Monterey Fire Company 27th Annual Steak Roast Saturday July 31

Grilled Steak or Swordfish

Corn on the Cob

Fresh Garden Salad

Baked Idaho Potato

Cake & Ice Cream

• also available

Soda, Beer, Wine,

Hot Dogs, Hamburgs

\$20.00 per person

serving from 5-7 PM

Fire Company Pavilion

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See you at the Steak Roast!

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George Emmons to Talk on Monterey's Ancient Cairns

George Emmons will give a lecture and pictorial presentation on ancient burial cairns and local trails with anecdotes on colonial and Native American interaction relevant to our early history at the Monterey Historical Society in the Knox Wing of the Monterey Library on July 30 at 7 o'clock. All are welcome!



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Do You Recognize this Photo?

This photo was found in a book, one among many, donated to the Monterey Library. If you recognize the adorable boy, the photo can be claimed at the library.

Green Corner: Get Practical Today to Protect the Climate

Right now on the big screen, it's possible to take a whirlwind meteorological ride. *The Day After Tomorrow* is more science fiction than science, yet it makes visual the dangers of continuing our current consumption of fossil fuels. Few scientists think that deep freezes will overtake Manhattan. Yet there is a consensus: human actions are changing the climate in ways that are leading to severe weather events such as floods and droughts. We are already experiencing the consequences of climate change.

Around the nation, people are doing things that are good for both the budget and climate, like using compact fluorescent bulbs and Energy Star appliances. Massachusetts Electric Company provides financial incentives to help residents reduce their energy needs through insulation, Energy Star refrigerators, and other measures. Find out more by calling 1-800-238-1221, ext 10.

Bald Eagle Sighting

We sighted a single bald eagle on June 4th, from 3 to 4 p.m., at the eastern end of Lake Garfield, perched in a tall, waterside pine. Mobbed by three or four crows, it remained unperturbed and stayed at least an hour. *Birds of Berkshire County* by Bartlett Hendricks (3rd ed., 1999), notes that it is a yearly migrant, but in such small numbers that it may be easily overlooked.

— G. Norris-Szanto & Jeffrey Szanto

Now, Massachusetts Electric Company residential and small business customers have a renewable energy choice. A small premium directly supports renewable energy suppliers. The Center for Ecological Technology's GreenerWatts New England is the only green energy choice provider based in western Massachusetts. GreenerWatts New England uses energy produced in the region and supports responsibly sited renewable energy projects. To find out more or to sign-up, visit: www.greenwattsNewEngland.com or call CET, 413-445-4556 ext 13.

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McLaughlin-Wilson Scholarships Awarded

The McLaughlin-Wilson Scholarship Fund has awarded first-time and renewal scholarships for the next academic year totaling \$58,230 to fifteen residents of Monterey.

Kate Casey, Massachusetts College of Art, Boston, MA.

Maggie Clawson, Hampshire College, Amherst, MA.

Kimberly Gero, Westfield State College, Westfield, MA.

Michele Haapanen, Liberty University, Lynchburg, VA.

Rachele Haapanen, Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant, MI.

Shanna Hamm, Westfield State University, Westfield, MA.

Careth Leining, Central Connecticut State University, New Britain, CT.

Oriana Raab, St. George's University School of Veterinary Medicine, Bay Shore, NY.

Travis Raab, undecided.

Andrew Shaw, Curry College, Milton, MA.

Emily Valentine Sottile, Rhodes College, Memphis, TN.

Christina Temenos, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY.

Christina Vallianos, University of California, Berkley, CA.

Katie Vallianos, Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, PA.

Noah Wright, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS.

The McLaughlin-Wilson Scholarship Fund is overseen by a committee of Monterey residents. Edith Wilson created the scholarship in 1995 to support the town's young people as they pursue a college education, a statement of her love for Monterey.

MONTEREY LIBRARY

Monday 7-9 p.m.
Tuesday 9:30 a.m.-noon
Wednesday 3-5 p.m.
Saturday 9:30 a.m.-noon
..... 7-9 p.m.

Phone 528-3795



George Emmons

Claudette Callahan speaking at the groundbreaking ceremony for Gould Farm's new Orchard House on June 25.

Selection of Recent Arrivals at the Monterey Library

Below is a sample of some of the new titles received recently at the Monterey Library. There are many others—check them out!

Adult Fiction

Emily Giffin, *Something Borrowed*
Rachel Hairston, *Essentials of House-keeping*
Janice Kaplan, *Botox Diaries*
Thomas Keneally, *The Tyrant's Novel*
Elmore Leonard, *Coyotes in the House*
Allan Mallinson, *Sabre's Edge*
Alison McGhee, *Snap*
Bill Pronzini, *Alias Man*

Children/Young Adults

Julie Chibbaro, *Redemption*
Carolyn Curtis & Alison Joy, *I Took the Moon for a Walk*
Eric A. Kimmel, *Wonder & Miracles: A Passover Companion*
Richard Peck, *The River Between Us*
G. P. Taylor, *Shadowdancer*

Adult Nonfiction

Dan Barry, *Pull Me up: A Memoir*
Bill Clinton, *My Life*
Edward Conlon, *Blue Blood*
Tony Hendra, *Father Joe: The Man Who Saved My Life*
John Keegan, *The Iraq War*
Dick Morris, *Rewriting History*
John McCain, *Why Courage Matters*
Cokie Roberts, *Founding Mothers*

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Welcome to Monterey!

*We are grateful
we live in a Berkshire village
(more a hamlet) of eight hundred souls.
We may not know the names
mostly the faces
from the collective of Town Meeting
(like the althing, moot of the past)
which is good and deep —
shows that we care.
What I want to say is
that all through the year
we wave to each other
in snow, in mudtime, in haze, in heat
to a truck rolling by, a car
a van, the UPS
a jogger, a stranger —
we of this village are wavers
our hands fly up in greeting
(often without a clue to whom)
but a good feeling fills the heart
with fleeting gratitude
that there are still that many of us
so willing to wave.
O stone-faced visitors, take heed
as you from the cities walk by:
a wave here is a salute, a token
that we of this village want you, too
to be happy along our roads under the blessing of trees
to be unafraid to be human
to greet anyone, anywhere
just for the heck of it!
This is how, after all, a little in the world
can point to what's great.*

— A. O. Howell

Respite

*I sat upon a springy green mesh chair
and rocked away long hours after noon.
Determined to avoid the slightest chore,
I read a book and hummed a little tune.
From time to time, I raised my head to look
at birds that fluttered round the nearby trees;
then started, once again, to scan the book,
encouraged by a soothing summer breeze.
A lucky break, that let me put aside
my mundane cares, the troubles in the news.
I slid into a daydream and, thus occupied,
decided I could well afford a snooze.
Demands of daily life you can't evade,
but for a while fond rest can make them fade.*

— Edwin Schur



Loosestrife Monitoring Begins at Brewer Pond

In June, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the Town of Monterey partnered to begin a project that will assess the impact of a natural biological control on the invasive wetland plant purple loosestrife. On June 11, under the direction of Fred St. Ours, Commonwealth summer loosestrife coordinator, a group of *Galerucella* species beetles, each about ¼ inch long, were released at Monterey's Brewer Pond site. Raised in the state of New Jersey's Agriculture lab, the beetles, whose forebears came from northern Europe and have controlled loosestrife there for centuries, settled in and began to lunch on the loosestrife.

The release was the end result of a three-year study on how to control the invasion of loosestrife in Monterey. An awareness campaign began in 2001-02 with public educational efforts by the Lake Garfield Association, informational efforts in town, at Lake Association meetings, and with articles in this newspaper. The efforts extended to home visits to

lakeshore property owners whose lakefront had small colonies of loosestrife.

While the efforts were ongoing, the loosestrife was spreading, and each year more of the woody purple plants took over from the cattails and native shrubs at Brewer Pond and began to take root on the shores of the small bowl of Lake Garfield. In the summer of 2003, a survey by Lake Garfield volunteers on removal of the plants by digging out and destroying at draw-down time, showed that the invaders had spread so much that mechanical removal was not possible without destruction of the native shoreline of the pond. This was reported to the Select Board. Herbicides are not a choice for management for two reasons. Apart from the objectionable nature of using poisons in our parkland, they do not eradicate the loosestrife, which has been shown to come back within three years, and native plants are also affected.

The Monterey Select Board realized the threat at the shoreline was extending, and encouraged information gathering about what loosestrife control efforts worked in Massachusetts. The Commonwealth Wetland Restoration division of the Environmental Protection Department sent Tim Smith, wetland scientist, to assess the loosestrife at Brewer Pond. Tim's assessment was that we could qualify for participation in a biological control

project already operating in eight other areas in our state. The agent shown to be affective in situations like ours was *Galerucella* (gal er oo sella). Biological control uses natural enemies of invasive plants to control them, NOT to eliminate them, but to weaken them so that native plants come back in. To qualify for the state program, someone had to agree to place monitoring quadrants (one-meter squares) around the area—we have five quadrants—then agree to count and record the loosestrife and native plants within each quadrant twice each season at specified times and in a specified way, for three years. That someone was the Lake Garfield Association.

Volunteers Susan and John Schmerler (who crafted the quadrants), Kathie Frome, and Richard and Pat Edelstein have begun to monitor the quads. Each quad has a sign stating that it is a loosestrife control monitoring site, and encouraging folks who walk the Brewer Pond trail to see the loosestrife and the native plants in the quad. This is environmental protection science at work, here in Monterey. Anyone who has questions about the quads or the project can call Pat Edelstein at 528-2738 or, if no answer, at 845-348-8803 for further information. Excellent brochures outlining the loosestrife problem in North America, published by the Ontario Federation of An-

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Sue Schmerler places the beetles, under the observation of Fred St. Ours, as Pat Edelstein looks on.

glers and Hunters, are available from the Lake Garfield Association. Ontario and the northern United States have had great invasions and are slowly beginning to control them. The LGA has purchased these brochures for distribution in Monterey

The goal of this biological control project is a weakening of the loosestrife and an increase of native plants within

five years. New Jersey has seen real improvements in three to five years after *Galerucella* introduction in their wetlands. The goal here is a return to the balance of nature in the plant life at Brewer Pond, and, by extension, to limit the invasion on the shores of Lake Garfield.

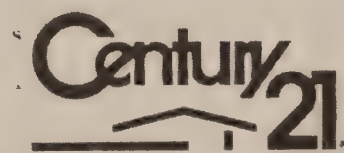
— Patricia Edelstein, Ecology,
Lake Garfield Association

Free Children's Program at Sandisfield Arts Center

On Sunday, July 25, at 2 p.m., master puppeteer Michael Wolski will perform at the Sandisfield Arts Center. The program is offered free thanks to the generous sponsorship of Berkshire Bank, the Fitzpatrick Family's High Meadow Foundation, and the Sandisfield and Monterey Cultural Councils.

In a fun-filled 40-minute show, Wolski, who makes his own puppets, shares the charming world of William K. Whiskers. One by one, Whiskers introduces us to many of his favorite friends. There's Isabelle, a tiny puppet who lives in a teakettle and bakes cookies; Billy Take The Garbage Out, a marionette who lives behind the fence with his dog; an old singing shoe; and many others. Recycling is a prominent theme in Whiskers' world. Children enjoy guessing what he creates from a discarded bucket, oven mitt, eggbeater and toilet plunger!

The Sandisfield Arts Center is located on Hammertown Road off Route 57 in Sandisfield. For directions and a calendar of events, visit www.sandisfieldartscenter.org.



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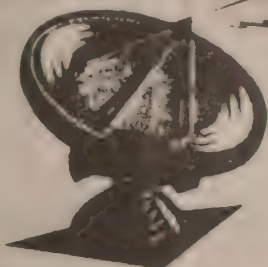
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Wildlife is Wildlife, No Matter How Small

If you follow Route 23 west from Monterey to the lowlands of Great Barrington, you come out onto a fertile flat area that extends from Butternut Basin to Belcher Square. For decades (at least), travelers along this route have delighted in observing the fluctuating network of ponds and channels maintained by a sturdy population of beavers. The beavers keep up the high quality of wetlands on both sides of the road and as a result we motorists can stop and view all sorts of wildlife supported by this rich habitat: beavers, turtles, kingfishers, salamanders, frogs, muskrats, coyotes, foxes, bobcats, fishers, skunks, mink, weasels, deer, bears, moose, wood ducks, Canada geese, marsh hawks, lots of butterflies, Baltimore orioles, and scarlet tanagers, to name just a few.

I often visit the new pond on the south side of the road by the Friends Meetinghouse. Recently the multiflora roses were blooming there and I cut a couple of thorny branches to take home. Not wanting the little white flowers to

wilt on the way home, I dipped up some pond water in a glass bottle.

Once home, the artist in me picked out certain windowsill vases for the flowers, and the bottle of pond water was left standing on the kitchen table. We don't waste water here and I was planning to pour it onto some houseplants as needed. Just as I was moving to do this, a very small voice caught my attention.

Like Horton the elephant in Dr. Seuss's *Horton Hears a Who*, I stopped in my tracks and held perfectly still. "Stop!" said the tiny voice. "We are wildlife, too!"

No one was around, but with my senses sharpened I suddenly noticed movement. The glass bottle! It was teeming with life. Little creatures the size of the periods at the ends of these sentences were careening around in the water.

"Who's there?" I cried, and put my ear to the bottle.

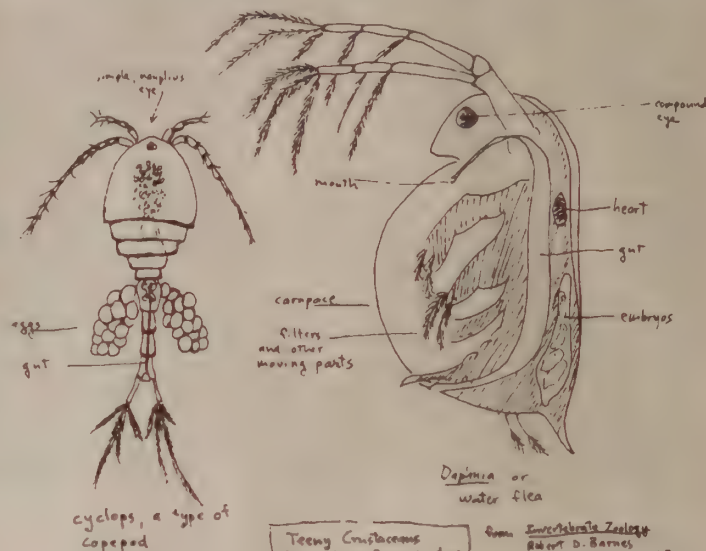
"We are the zooplankton of the Meetinghouse Pond," said the tiny creatures in unison, "mostly water fleas and cyclopses."

With my hand lens I could see that some of the little animals had a basic pollywog shape, rounded at one end with a single eye between two graceful antennae. "Tell me about yourself," I said, singling out a friendly individual.

"I am a cyclops, named for the giant in Greek mythology because I have one

eye. I am a member of the subclass of crustaceans called copepoda. This is Greek again, referring to our oarlike appendages. *Kope* is Greek, about oars, and then *poda* is our feet. We row like mad with most of our feet and then stop to rest. While rowing we keep our long lovely antennae folded flat along our sides, but then when we rest we hold them out to the sides like this, to keep us from sinking."

"If you are a crustacean," I said, "where is your shell? Your carapace? I know a thing or two about crustaceans..."



"No, we don't have such a thing, though truly we are crustaceans. We eat little single-celled plants and animals, and are in turn gobbled up by larger creatures. We copepods have the distinction of constituting the world's largest stock of living animal protein." I saw the little chest swell with pride.

We talked some more like this and after a while I obtained a teeny signature on a written consent for further study

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Very gently, not to disturb a single maxilliped or caudal ramus, I transferred a drop of pond water to a microscope slide and took a look. My little buddies were zipping about in the drop, moving jerkily, stopping suddenly. At these moments I could see they were pinkish, from the hemoglobin in their blood, and some of them carried big sacks of eggs, one on either side of their slim bodies.

With the microscope I could also see there were some very different creatures present, roughly the same size, but built like little transparent clams with head and antennae sticking out one end. "Who are you?" I asked.

"We," squeaked the teeny beasts, "are *Daphnia*, also called water fleas. We, too, are crustaceans like the copepods, but we have our carapaces covering all but our heads. Also we have an actual heart for pumping our pink blood around."

I noticed the water fleas had a twitchy sort of pace, like that of the cyclopes. I singled out one friendly character for an interview.

"Tell me about yourself," I said. "How do you reproduce?"

She blushed a little pinker. "I am glad you asked because we are rather special in that regard. You see, we practice parthenogenesis, which means we don't need males! Oh we do produce a few males, because it is always a good idea to make *some* fertilized eggs, which we call winter eggs. These can survive being dried out, or even carried off in

mud on the feet of a migrating bird. If the bird lands in a wet place, or some place that will one day fill with rainwater, the eggs can hatch and start up a whole new colony of *Daphnia*. But our female eggs can mature very fast without being fertilized. I can put out a new brood of girl *Daphnia* every two or three days, all by myself. Because we often live in temporary ponds, we have to be quick."

We talked for a while and I was able to tell them a few things about my species: what we eat, how we move around, how we reproduce. They were polite, but I could tell they did not think much of a creature with only two legs and no antennae. When they asked me what populations I supported, as food base, I stammered that I feed a few mosquitoes now and then and maybe an occasional intestinal parasite. I can look forward to joining the general compost some day, if I am lucky and can evade the public health officials, but I doubt the little heron in the Meetinghouse Pond will ever benefit nutritionally from me, even indirectly.

Of course I transported them all carefully home to the west side of the pond where I'd dipped them up. A zillion antennae waved good-bye as they went back to their work in the world and I went back to mine. Like Horton the elephant, I walk more gently than ever now, conscious of the wildlife that is wildlife, no matter how small.

— Bonner J. McAllester

Remembering Paul A. Palermo

Paul A. Palermo, 74, of 109 Pixley Road, died June 8 at his daughter's home in Lee. He was born in Manhattan on November 15, 1929, son of Arthur and Pauline Bisneck Palermo. Mr. Palermo had a long career as a professional painter and decorator until his retirement. He was a communicant of Our Lady of the Valley Church. He was also a member of Painters Local #160 of the Brotherhood of Painters and Allied Trade. He enjoyed music, singing, and spending time with his family. He leaves his wife of 38 years and his "Life's Greatest Work," Rita Rituno Palermo; one son, Arthur J. Palermo, of West Palm Beach, Florida; four daughters, Mary Ann Torsay, of New Marlborough, Josephine Palermo-Pyburne, of Lee, Rita Backhaus of Monterey, and Theresa Palermo Segalla, of Great Barrington; eight grandchildren, Julia, Elizabeth, Gabrielle, John, Samantha, Christopher, Antonio, and Ashley.

Expressions of sympathy in Paul's memory may be made to the Unitarian Universalist Meeting of Southern Berkshire (Habitat for Humanity).

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Notes from Greenhaven Farm 1954 Time Capsule to Be Opened

Most everyone should know by now that fifty years ago the town asked Ray Tryon to be the fire chief. Another event occurred in 1954 on the Ward property that Ray Ward called "Greenhaven." A clubhouse was built for the preteen kids.

In 1954 Monterey seemed more isolated, possibly because the children all went to either the Corashire School or Center School through the eighth grade. Sally went to Center School for eight years, where Mrs. Heath taught. We all know that seventh and eighth graders need lots of activities, but not little kid stuff since they are nearly ready for the big time high school. The Nature club was created by town adults; however the kids took a lot of initiative since they liked to be together anyway.

The kids decided to build a clubhouse behind the bus barn. They were long on enthusiasm but short of materials

and knowledge. Bruce spoke to his dad, Don Amstead Sr., who owned a lumber mill at the time. Don said, "We're going to do this right." And they did. The proof is that the clubhouse still stands square and straight fifty years later!

Like any good building, this one needed a cornerstone. And of course a time capsule was needed! Ray Ward fashioned a container, and the kids filled it. None of the former members that I have spoken to remembers what was put into the capsule. This is understandable since they are all over sixty years old today.

We are going to dig out the capsule and open it at 4 p.m. on July 31, 2004. This is just prior to the Firemen's Steak Roast next door. Some former members who will be on hand include Walter Parks, Bill Gilchrist, Sally and Louise Ward, and Bruce Amstead. Everyone is invited to witness the opening in front of the bus barn (aka the Greenhaven Farmstand) at 409 Main Road. Who knows, maybe your picture is in it.

— Steve Pullen



Jean Germain

Photography Exhibition by Jean Germain

Photographer Jean Germain, a resident of Monterey for 39 years, has exhibited extensively throughout the Berkshires. In 1993, Jean photographed a very unique Inside/Out Dance program at Jacob's Pillow called "Chu Mu" (Butterfly Dreams), performed by the Zaccho Dance Company of San Francisco. "Chu Mu" focused on the life cycle of the butterfly as a metaphor for human development and transformation of five cycles.

Jean will be exhibiting her photographs of one of the life cycles, "The Egg" (Water Tank), showing the dancer evolving in a tank of water.

The exhibition runs from July 23–September 7 with a reception August 7 at the Naoussa Gallery in Tyringham.

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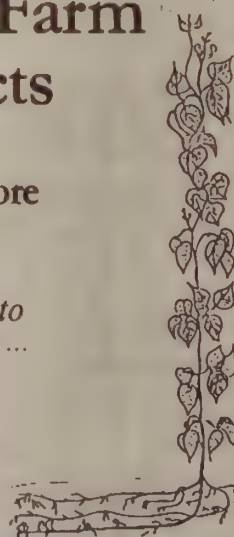
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Environmental Sensitivity

To the Editor:

Last month's report in the *News* of the Annual Town Meeting by George Emmons presents an erroneous impression of the facts and discussion regarding the Article for funding the loosestrife biological control project in Brewer Pond.

News Article Quote: "Several articles were very controversial, particularly the request for a sum of \$500 for the purple loosestrife project for Brewer Pond, which was not recommended by those more environmentally sensitive. The Article passed nevertheless."

There was certainly a spirited discussion regarding the introduction of the *Galerucella* beetle for the control of loosestrife. However, it is incorrect to ascribe environmental sensitivity to those who opposed this project in contrast to those who supported it.

Everyone in Monterey needs to understand the care and diligence of the research undertaken to understand the environmental impact of loosestrife on wetlands, shorelines, waterways, ponds, and lakes and what to do about it as its presence in Brewer Pond and Lake Garfield increases. This is not some sudden, quick-fix plan recommended without the effort

to gather the best evidence available. Some extraordinarily environmentally sensitive folk have brought in experts, gone to meetings, read scientific reports, and then made this recommendation to the Select Board and to all of us. This project stands on the shoulders of the research and experience of state, federal and conservancy organizations to eradicate or control this extraordinarily invasive species in many other places. It is interesting to note that loosestrife control has brought together environmental interests with hunting and fishing interests in a concerted effort to educate and take action.

It is not valid to evaluate this action—or the motives of those supporting or not supporting this project—on the basis of care for the environment. I wager that if the scientific studies and evaluations of similar projects in other areas had been read by all voters there would have been very little or no opposition.

My regret is that I didn't have more material at my fingertips during the Town Meeting discussion. But it is fair to say that for some years now, Pat Edelstein, of the Lake Garfield Association Ecology Committee, has been writing in the *Monterey News*, speaking at the Select Board and at LGA meetings, and distributing brochures about loosestrife. It is not possible to make the complete argument in the hurly-burly of Town Meeting dis-

cussion. We all must rely on voters arriving at the meeting with as much information as possible. A lot of effort has been made to provide complete information and this effort will continue.

While the best way to control loosestrife is to properly remove it, roots and all, this is harder than it appears. Removing individual plants properly "is a good thing" but tackling a well-established patch may be impossible or inadvisable.

Suffice it to say, fear of the unknown or unintended consequences may be a valid concern. But it is important to note that very environmentally sensitive people are on both sides. As voters and members of a community we need to validate wherever possible while making decisions on the best evidence we can find. This project was not recommended in haste, but time is of the essence if we intend to manage a problem that can quickly get beyond control.

Some things you can do to better understand this project: 1) Check out the LGA web site (www.lakegarfield.org) where there are links to lots and lots of further information. 2) Read the brochure: "Purple Loosestrife: What You Should Know, What You Can Do." If you would like a copy, send a note to LGA, Box 355, or e-mail information@lakegarfield.org or come to one of the LGA meetings this summer—July 17 or August 14 at 9:30 a.m. at the Firehouse.

— Janet Cathcart



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Natasha Grotz Receives Ph.D.

In commencement ceremonies held June 13, 2004, on the Green at Dartmouth College, Natasha Grotz received her Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree in the field of Molecular Biology.

A 1990 graduate of Mount Everett, Natasha received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Dartmouth in 1995. After working as a laboratory technician for two years in the Department of Biology at Dartmouth, she entered its Ph.D. program in 1997, and was first in her class, in rank and time, to complete the core curriculum required of all doctoral candidates.

Her research has been published in numerous scientific journals, including the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Science*. Her awards include the American Women in Science Graduate Fellowship, awarded to the outstanding student in the field of plant biology, and the National Science Foundation Travel Award to attend the NATO Advanced Studies Institute in Corsica. In 2004 she



was invited into full membership in Sigma Xi, the national honorary society for scientists who have demonstrated noteworthy achievements in research.

Upon graduation she received the Hannah B. Croasdale Postdoctoral Fellowship at Dartmouth College, a two year appointment as professor and research associate combining teaching and ongoing research in the Department of Biology.

She is the younger daughter of Stefan and Stephanie Grotz of Main Road, Monterey.



Contributors

We are most grateful to the following readers for recent contributions.

Margaret Northrup
Jay Amidon
Dan Andrus
Robert & Linda Hebert
Benchmark Realty
Half Moon Camp
Virgil & Marie Brallier
Eileen Brennan
Irwin Goffman & Nancy Larkin
Barbara Swann
Marilyn & Stanley Rossier
Myrna & Robin Kruuse
Susan Kuder & Channing Mendelsohn
Ian Jenkins & Maria Carvainis
Susan & Alan Cohen
Ron & Mildred Galen
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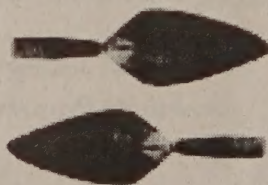
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Calendar

Every Monday (exc. holidays): Select Board meeting, 8:30 a.m.–noon, Town Offices.

Friday, July 2: Full Moon.

Saturday, July 3: Storytelling at the Monterey Library with Laurie Shaw, for children ages 4 and up. 10 a.m. See p. 5.

Sunday, July 4: Independence Day.

Monday, July 5: Town Offices closed.

Wednesday, July 7:

All Boards Meeting with the Building Commissioner in Town Hall, 7 p.m. See Town News.

Free Concert on the Lawn: The Flying Garbanzos at the Bidwell House Museum, Art School Road, 6-7:30 p.m. See p. 6.

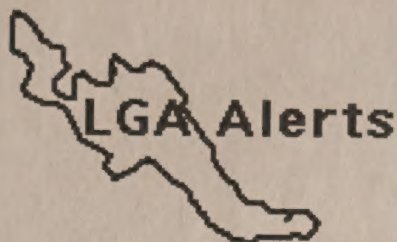
Thursday, July 8: Free blood pressure clinic, 2:30–3:30 p.m., Town Offices, administered by Visiting Nurses Assoc.

Saturday, July 10: Singer/songwriter Jay Mankita takes us on a musical tour of the world at the Monterey Library, 10 a.m. See p. 5.

Saturday, July 17:

Lake Garfield Association meeting at the Firehouse, 9:30 a.m. See p. 7.

Alice O. Howell will read from her book, *The Beejum Book* at the library at 10 a.m. Children 7 and up. See p. 5.



Summer Meeting Schedule

9:30 a.m. at the Firehouse

July 17, August 14

LakeFest 2004

Saturday, August 28

(rain date August 29)

Catch up on Lake Garfield news

Public boat ramp?

LakeFest?

Weeds & beetles?

Web Site: lakegarfield.org

Saturday, July 24:

Storyteller Laurie Shaw will host at the Library for an hour of storytelling and fun, 10 a.m. See p. 5.

Square and contra dancing, 8:30–11:30 p.m., Sheffield Grange, Rt. 7, Sheffield. Music by Mountain Laurel, calling by Peter Stix. All dances are taught, beginners and children are welcome. Adults \$6, children \$3. Information 528-9385.

The Observer

May 26–June 25

High temp. (6/10)	86°
Low temp. (5/30)	37°
Avg. high temp.	70.6°
Avg. low temp.	50.2°
Avg. temp.	60.4°
Total rainfall	3.24"
Precipitation occurred on 14 days.	

Early American Games Day at the Bidwell House Museum, 1–4 p.m. See p. 6.

Friday, July 30: Monterey Historical Society talk on burial cairns and local trails by George Emmons, 7 p.m., Knox Wing of the Monterey Library. See p. 8.

Saturday, July 31:

Annual used book sale at the Monterey Library, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Foodways in Colonial New England at the Bidwell House Museum, 1–2:30 p.m. See p. 6.

Annual Steak Roast at the Fire Company Pavillion, 5–7 p.m. \$20 per person. See p. 8.

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Contributions from local artists this month:
Bonner McAllester, p. 14; Glynis Oliver, pp. 6, 8, 11, 18.

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